

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, and 15 are canceled by this Amendment. Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 are pending and are objected to. Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 are therefore at issue.

Support for the Amendment

Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 are amended to be in independent, rather than dependent, form. Specifically, these claims are amended to include all limitations of claims from which they previously depended. This amendment does not narrow those claims.

No new matter is added.

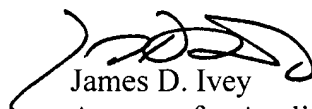
The Claims are Allowable Over the Cited Art

The Examiner objected to Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but acknowledged that the claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 are so rewritten. Accordingly, Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 is now allowable.

CONCLUSION

Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13 are now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next action is other than for allowance of Claims 2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 13, or if the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to the above-identified case, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at (510) 336-1100.

Respectfully submitted,



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